



Washington State Department of Agriculture News Release

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WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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Washington and Idaho sign interstate grain agreement

OLYMPIA – Washington and Idaho have reached an agreement that will make it easier and less costly for grain storage companies in both states to do business.

This cooperative agreement creates a joint program for the licensing, bonding and regulatory oversight of grain warehouse operators that have grain elevators in both Washington and Idaho that deal with producers from both states. It also will benefit grain dealer operations that are located in Washington or Idaho that are purchasing wheat, barley, oats, corn, dry peas, and lentils produced in either state.

Washington State Department of Agriculture (WSDA) Director Valoria Loveland and Idaho Director of Agriculture Pat Takasugi signed the agreement Friday during a ceremony at the Pacific Northwest Grain and Feed Association Country Elevator Council Meeting, in Lewiston, Idaho.

“The finalization of this agreement represents an excellent example of neighboring states working together in an attempt to eliminate costly and duplicative regulatory requirements,” said Bob Gore, assistant director for WSDA’s Commodity Inspection division.

The agreement was created to streamline the requirements of both states. It eliminates dual paperwork, dual fees and dual regulations. It also ensures that the requirements of both states’ statutes are met.

“This is going to be a good deal for operators on both sides of the Washington-Idaho border,” said Don Michelbook, manager of WSDA’s Grain Warehouse Audit program. “It will allow them to operate and not need to meet the requirements of two separate states.”

For additional information about the cooperative agreement and to receive the participating consent forms, contact Don Michelbook, Program Manager Grain Warehouse Audit at (509) 533-2488 or e-mail dmichelbook@agr.wa.gov.

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